

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

April 24th, 2016

“...thou art a GOD ready
to pardon, gracious and
merciful, slow to anger,
and of great kindness.”

NEHEMIAH 9:17

JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR

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April 24th, 2016

Schedule of Services

Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy Birthday!

Alyson Murphy—April 25th

“Beloved, you have many faults; but consider this and be glad;
the Lord Jesus presents you holy and faultless in His sight.”

(JUDE 1:24, COLOSSIANS 1:22, PSALM 68:2)

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A WORD OF COMFORT

Consider this, while some men present the Gospel of Christ dishonorably as an *offer*, the apostle Paul declared it as a *commandment*. The Gospel is the declaration of God’s commandment to all men everywhere *to repent* of the sin of believing and trusting in an ‘UNKNOWN GOD’, and *to believe* on His Son, His Christ, His King, His Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who died for our sins according to the scriptures (ACTS 17:30, 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-4, MATTHEW 1:21, JOHN 10:11, JOHN 17:9,21).

Away with this false christ according to men, the anti-christ found in the filth of christendom, a christ who merely accomplished a potential salvation, that now depends on the decision of a man to make it effectual; who get’s the glory in that? God certainly does not, man get’s the glory in the false gospel!

Our God testifies he is the one that makes His children, “*which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*” Beloved “*He has saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.*” (2 TIMOTHY 1:9)

The Lord Jesus Christ did not make salvation possible for all men everywhere without *exception*; when HE died on the cross HE actually

accomplished HIS Father's will and purpose in the salvation of HIS elect people! A full and finished salvation for all men everywhere without *distinction*.

The angel of the Lord said "*He shall save His people from their sins*", our Lord said "*I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.*" ... "*All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.*" (MATTHEW 1:21, JOHN 10:11, JOHN 6:36)

Beloved in Christ, you are holy and without blame before His throne in love. If you believe that, God did something for you! You are among the righteous in Christ who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit, among those who have the righteousness of the law fully satisfied and fulfilled by their substitute, Christ Jesus the Lord. Beloved, we are found in HIM and HE is formed in us. (JONAH 2:9; ROMANS 8:1,4; GALATIANS 1:15-16)

It is sobering to consider that *many*, not a *few*, on that great day will make mention of many things 'they did' in the name of the Lord, but consider this beloved, God's people remember no works before God save one—the finished saving work of the Lord Jesus—the cursed vainly believe and will remember many works they did in His name. (REVELATION 5:9, MATTHEW 7:22, MATTHEW 25:44)

I thank GOD for HIS goodness that leads HIS people to repentance, that through the preaching of the Gospel, HE effectually calls us from death to life; taking us from the tomb of our sin, iniquity, and rebellion, HE translates us into the Kingdom of HIS dear Son. It is not man in of himself that repents, but rather it is GOD who grants us repentance to life. From beginning to end salvation is of the LORD! (PSALM 110:3, ROMANS 2:4, ACTS 11:8)

Lastly a word of encouragement...

Consider this and rest beloved. All that could ever be said of His people, HE was *made*, and all that could ever be said of HIM, we are *made* in CHRIST, our substitute. (2 CORINTHIANS 5:21)

Could others say to you or me, "*You have not been everything you ought to have been as a son, brother, husband, father, or neighbor?*" Yes they could, and you and I both know, ashamedly, they'd be right! But God's word tells us beloved, no one can lay a charge against God's elect; for HE was *made* to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be *made* the righteousness of GOD in HIM; it is GOD who justifies. Paul said, "*with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self. For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord*" ... "*Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.*" (1 CORINTHIANS 4:3-4, ROMANS 8:34), so let us not forget what manner of people we are. God's people are a people who grow more and more convinced of their desperate and present need of the Lord Jesus Christ, their God and Saviour. By GOD's free and sovereign grace we say with our brother Peter, "*Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.*" And by God's grace it is our heart's desire to be "*found in him, not having [our] own*

righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.” (PHILIPPIANS 3:9)

Is our LORD JESUS CHRIST holy? Is HE perfect? Is HE a man without sin? Did HE please HIS Father in every way, in every thought, word, and deed? Herein is our love made perfect beloved, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as *HE is*, so *are we* in this world. What a blessed place it is to be found in CHRIST; saying with our brother Paul, “*a true and faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.*”

Praise the Lord! he has given us an understanding—to know we have been washed in the blood of the Lamb, and now stand in CHRIST by GOD’s free and sovereign grace; without sin, holy, and without blame before His throne in love. Praise the Lord for full salvation! (1 JOHN 4:17, 1 TIMOTHY 1:15, 1 JOHN 5:20-21) Do you believe HIM? I pray you do.

PASTOR

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“Beloved, it is not for your sake but for Christ’s sake that God has forgiven you, freely by His grace in Christ.”

(ROMANS 3:24, EPHESIANS 4:32, EPHESIANS 2:8)

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CHRIST IS ALL

A man who tells me, “*you must be so and so, in order to be saved,*” robs the cross of all its glory, and robs me of all my peace! If salvation depends upon our being or doing this or that, we shall, inevitably, be lost. Thank God, it does not; for the great fundamental principle of the Gospel is that **CHRIST IS ALL**; man is **NOTHING**. It is not a mixture of **CHRIST** and *man*; the salvation of sinners is entirely by the doing and dying of our Lord and God Jesus Christ.

The peace of the Gospel does not rest in part on **CHRIST’s work** and in part on *man’s work*; it rest wholly on **CHRIST’s work**, because that work is perfect, perfect forever, and it renders all who put their trust in **HIM** as perfect as **HE IS!** **CHRIST** must either be a *whole Saviour* or *no Saviour at all*.

The moment a man says, “*you must be so and so, in order to be saved,*” he totally subverts the Gospel; for in the Gospel I find Christ coming down to me, just as I am — a lost guilty, self-destroyed sinner, and coming, moreover, with a full remission of all my sins, and a full salvation from my lost estate, all perfectly wrought by Himself on the cross.

What rest! Perfect rest! is there for the heart and conscience of the believing sinner! What full relief for the burdened spirit! **All our sins** buried in the grave of **CHRIST** — not one — not even the smallest sin left out!

God did this for us! All the sins that His searching eye could detect in His people, He laid on the head of **CHRIST** when He hung upon the cross! Our Heavenly Father *judged Him* there and then, *instead of judging us*, in hell forever!

C.H. MACKINTOSH